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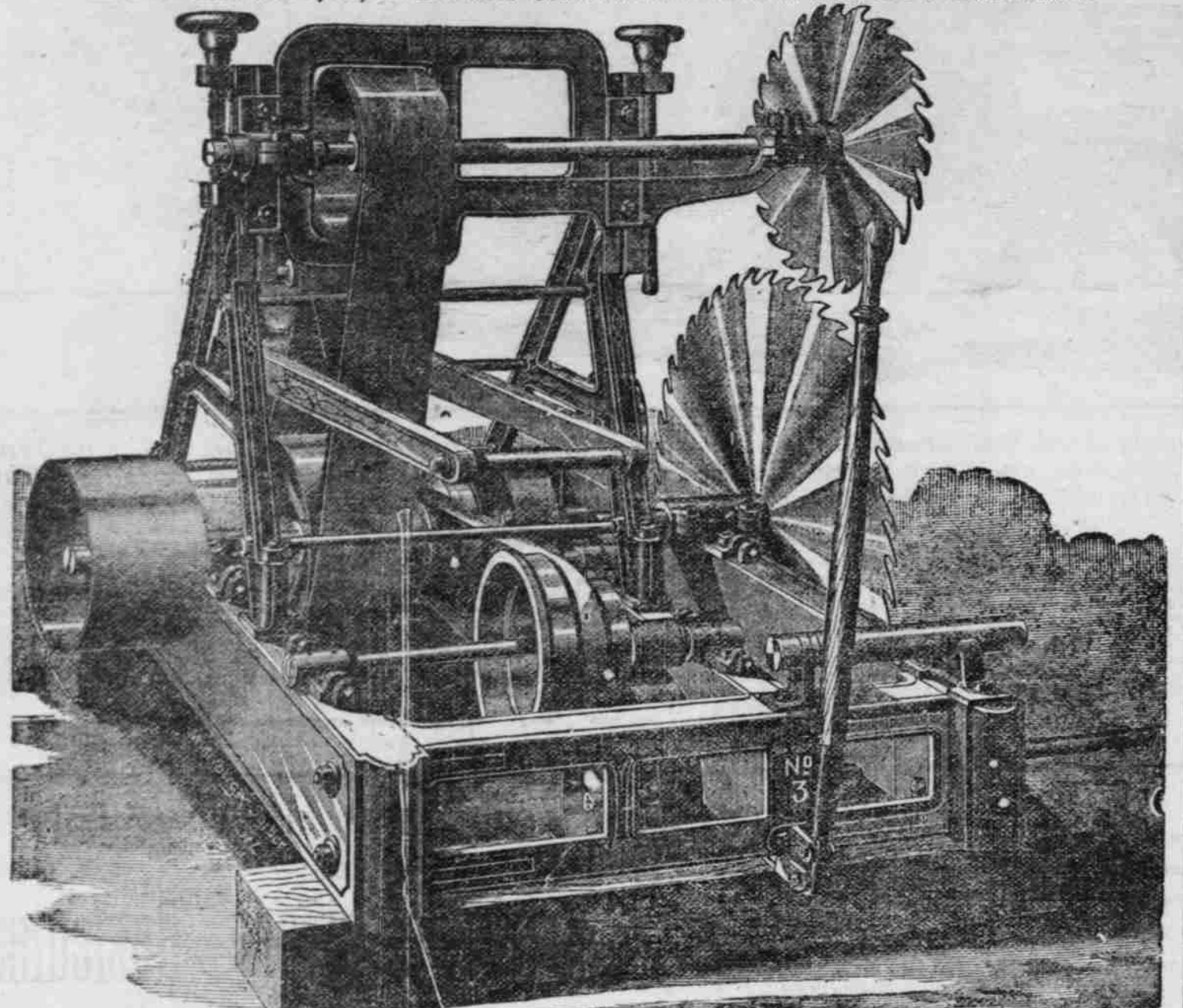
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CURRENT TOPICS.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS

In the Senate, on the 9th, a number of petitions were presented and referred, and the Silver bill was taken up and discussed. The House-Silver bill was laid before the Senate and ordered printed and laid on the table. Mr. Vest called up the bill "To Prevent Monopoly in the Transportation of Cattle to Foreign Countries," which was pending when the Senate adjourned. In the House the title of the Silver bill passed on the 7th was amended so as to read "Directing the Purchase of Silver Bullion and the Issue of Treasury Notes Thereon, and for Other Purposes." Business relating to this District of Columbia was then taken up, and several bills were passed.

In the Senate, on the 10th, the Senate Silver bill was taken up and discussed at length, but finally went over. The House Silver bill was referred to committee on finance. Quite a number of private and unimportant bills were passed. In the House, the Senate bill amending the Internal Revenue laws was passed. Senate bill changing the present system of drawbacks on exported beer and fermented liquors, and several minor bills were passed. In the House, the Senate bill was taken up and discussed at length, but finally went over. The House Silver bill was referred to committee on finance. Quite a number of private and unimportant bills were passed. In the House, the Senate bill amending the Internal Revenue laws was passed. Senate bill changing the present system of drawbacks on exported beer and fermented liquors, and several minor bills were passed.

In the Senate, on the 11th, Mr. Morrill, from the committee on finance, reported back favorably and with sundry amendments the House-Silver bill, and gave notice that he would offer it as a substitute for the Senate bill. The Senate Silver bill was then taken up, but went over without action. A number of bills were taken from the calendar and passed. In the House the conference report on the Anti-Trust bill was presented and went over.

In the Senate, on the 12th, the Dependent Pension bill was reported from conference and ordered printed. The Silver bill was then taken up, and Messrs. Evans, Vance and Morgan spoke in favor of it. In the House the conference report on the Anti-Trust bill was reported, and a further conference, with instructions to the House conferees to recede from the House amendment, was ordered. The conference report on the Military bill was agreed to. The Urgent Deficiency bill, appropriating \$478,538 for the payment of pensions and \$100,000 for expenses of the eleventh census, was passed. The conference report on the Pension bill was passed. A further conference was ordered. The Agricultural Appropriation bill was passed.

In the Senate, on the 13th, after preliminary business, the Silver bill was taken up, and was still under discussion at three o'clock, when, under the agreement, general debate should have closed, but by unanimous consent the bill was taken up in committee of the whole and was still pending when the committee rose for adjournment. Night session unproductive of results, was held.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

ROBERT H. WALLACE and J. R. LOW, the two men who robbed the proprietors of Wallace's Monthly Magazine of \$500, and fled to Cuba under assumed names, were brought back to New York, on the 11th, by detectives. The base price for pudding during the next scale year in the mills of Pittsburgh and all Western and Southern points will be \$5.50 on a two-cent card, the same as this year's scale. This figure was decided upon finally at a session of the convention of the Amalgamated Association in Pittsburgh on the 9th. It is estimated that the highwaymen who robbed the mail-car on the Northern Pacific road at New Salem, N. D., got away with about \$10,000 contained in registered packages. At last accounts they were making for the Black Hills, pursued by cavalry and citizens.

The class-day exercises at Vassar College began on the 10th, and the day's programme included the interesting ceremony of planting the class tree on the lawn. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the institution was celebrated on the 11th.

A CAUCUS of Republican Senators, held on the evening of the 10th, chose E. K. Valentine, of Nebraska, as the successor of Sergeant-at-Arms Cassidy, whose resignation was previously tendered, takes place on the 30th.

The president of the Senate laid before that body, on the 10th, a petition of the West Africa Steamship Company of New Orleans, asking an appropriation of \$500,000 to establish a line of mail steamers between New Orleans and the west coast of Africa.

Two slight shocks of earthquake were felt at San Diego, Cal., on the 11th. WARRANTS for the arrest of the spectators of the McBride-Larus fight, in San Francisco, in which the former received injuries resulting in his death, were issued on the 11th.

The unrestricted sale of liquor in the town of Ellsworth, Me., during the visit of a circus, on the 10th, resulted in a disgraceful riot between local toughs and the circus people.

CHARLES CLARK, aged twenty-six, was drowned at Portsmouth, N. H., on the 10th, by the capsizing of a small skiff. He leaves a wife and child.

The Reformed Presbyterian Synod, in session in New York, on the 11th, voted—122 to 17—for union with the other branches of the denomination.

The House of Representatives, on the 11th, agreed to the conference report on the Senate Pension bill: Yeas, 145; nays, 56.

In the suit for damages of £100,000 brought by the American, George Washington Butterfield, against the London Financial News, for having libeled him in connection with certain mining schemes in the United States, the jury found against Butterfield, thus justifying the Financial News.

The House committee on banking and currency, on the 12th, heard arguments in favor of the bill to carry into effect the recommendations of the Pan-American Conference and of the President for the establishment of an International American bank.

In the Eyrard case the authorities at Havana have placed the murderer at the disposal of the French Consul, with assurance that all aid would be rendered to secure his safe embarkation for France.

ABOUT one hundred members of the Independent New York Schutz Corps were among the passengers on the steamship Wieland, which sailed from New York for Hamburg on the 12th.

COLLECTOR PHELPS of San Francisco states that there are now fully 180 Chinese enamped at Nogales waiting for an opportunity to cross the Mexican border into the United States.

GOVERNOR BURLEIGH of Maine was renominated by acclamation at Augusta on the 12th.

Mr. DOLPH introduced in the Senate, on the 12th, a bill to appropriate \$200,000 to establish a branch home for volunteer soldiers in Oregon.

REV. JOSEPH LAGARDE, with half a dozen aliases, a notorious thief and confidence man who has operated through New England and Canada for several years, was arrested in Boston, on the 11th, charged with the theft of \$125 worth of jewelry from a Mrs. Zeus nearly a year ago.

SEN. L. MITCHELL, of Belfast, Me., was renominated for Congress from the Third district on the 12th.

The ninth annual convention of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor began its sessions in the Grand Music Hall of the St. Louis Exposition building, on the 12th, there being registered at the opening meeting 4,300 delegates, with as many more en route who were expected to arrive by the evening trains.

GENERAL SHERMAN delivered an address to the graduating class at the West Point Military Academy, on the 12th, and when he referred to the fact that it was the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation, great shout went up from the cadets and audience that made the walls fairly tremble.

On the 12th Southampton, Long Island, celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of its settlement. A great crowd was present to participate in the festivities, among whom were a few remaining Indians of the Shinnecock tribe, which originally owned the land upon which the town stands.

The fifth volume of Sibel's "History of the German Empire" reveals the fact that in 1897 the Crown-Prince Frederick William proposed that his father should assume the imperial crown. This action King William deemed to be premature at that time.

A SUICIDE is current at Yonkers, N. Y., that Senator Pettigrew is a bankrupt and is trying to settle at sixty cents on the dollar. His transfer of \$300,000 of Silver Falls realty to Senator Don Cameron gives color to the statement.

MR. JAMES E. KELLEY, the famous New York sculptor and designer of the proposed Rod Jacket monument to be erected in Buffalo, N. Y., and adopted, on the 13th, with all the old-time rites, into the tribe of the Seneca Indians.

MR. CONVERSE is the husband of Mrs. Harriett Maxwell Converse, who is already a Seneca by adoption.

The indictments against John Koenig and Roddie Alderman Henry L. Sayles, of New York City, who were charged with participating in the steal of the Broadway railway franchise, were dismissed on the 13th.

It is said the German Minister to Morocco has secured a three years' monopoly of the wheat and barley export trade of that country.

The German wool markets are glutted and prices are consequently falling. The English Tories have abandoned their proposed memorial in favor of an autumn session of Parliament. This action is taken in consequence of the threatened resignation of Mr. W. H. Smith, the government leader in the House of Commons.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

HON. CLEM C. SHORTER, Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, and one of the most brilliant young men in Alabama, died at his home in Eufaula on the 16th.

A KID OF BEER caused a small race riot on the 16th at Brookside, a small mining town near Birmingham, Ala. A pitched battle was fought on the main street between 100 armed negroes on one side and 75 white men on the other.

It is said that the Memphis & Charleston Railroad Company is negotiating for the Chattanooga, Rome & Columbus Railroad. The Memphis & Charleston stockholders meet July 15, when it is expected the matter will take definite shape.

WILLIAM HICHERSON, of Flemingsburg, Ky., aged 14, was bitten in the leg by a copper-head snake on the 16th. His leg swelled to the size of a man's body, and after suffering excruciating pain he died the following day.

FRED LOCKRIDGE, a well known farmer living near Franklin, Williamson County, Tenn., was struck by lightning and killed in his field on the 15th. Lockridge's head was split open, his shoes torn to pieces and his clothing burned.

A FIGHT occurred between three women in Jack county, Texas, on the 16th, in which Miss Mary Cunningham, aged 17, lost her life. Mrs. Bowers and daughter went to the home of Mrs. Walker for the purpose of giving her a whipping. A gun was lying across the bed and Mrs. Bowers and Mrs. Walker both got hold of it, with Mrs. Bowers on the breach. Miss Cunningham caught Mrs. Walker by the hair, pulled her away, and the gun was discharged, sending a load of shot through Miss Cunningham, causing instant death.

In a fight near Louisville, Ky., on the 15th, William Walton knocked Harry Kerrick down by a blow in the stomach. Kerrick died in twenty minutes.

CONSIDERABLE alarm is felt at St. Louis over the publication of a funeral announcement in which the cause of death is set down as cholera.

It is said the additions made to the river and harbor bill by the Senate Committee on Commerce aggregate nearly \$4,000,000.

THREE weeks ago Homer Newton of Richmond, on a wager, ate twenty-six hard-boiled eggs. He immediately became ill. He lingered in terrible pain until the 15th, when he died.

THE WORLD OF COMMERCE.

The Business Outlook of the Country as Reflected in R. G. Dunn & Co's Weekly Report—Speculation Not Particularly Active, But Legitimate Business of All Most Unprecedented Volume—The Money Market Easy—Business Failures, Etc.

New York, June 14.—R. G. Dunn & Co. in their weekly report say:

Speculation has been neither large in volume nor enthusiastic in tone during the past week, but the legitimate business of the country continues unprecedented in volume for the season, and highly encouraging in prospects. Although the Treasury has taken in \$2,000,000 more money than it has disbursed, and foreign exchange, apparently because of sales of American securities and a slackening of exports, has advanced about a cent during the week, the current rate for money on call has declined from 5 to 4 1/2 per cent. There has been quite a decline in exports from New York for two weeks past the value having been 15 per cent below that of the same weeks last year, while in imports there is a moderate increase continues, last week 5 per cent over the flow of the same week to this week. Interior cities report rather more demand for money and at Boston rates are rising; at Chicago and St. Louis steady and at Philadelphia dull, not much commercial paper offering, but at most points the demand is fair with a sufficient supply. Crop prospects begin to rule all markets at this season and these are distinctly improving. The capacity of iron furnaces in blast June 1 was 157,755 tons, against 150,000 May 1, and 151,000 April 1. It seems scarcely credible that the actual consumption can be 31 per cent greater than a year ago and yet the tone of the market is fairly confident, and does not indicate material accumulation of stocks. Eastern makers are said to have checked the incipient advance in prices, in order not to establish a market for Southern and Western producers to imitate. On the demand for various forms of manufactured iron and steel is still good and prices steady and sales of 20,000 tons of rails are reported, with \$1 quoted at Eastern mills. The wool market has been dull, sales at Boston being only 1,500,000 pounds and dealers there do not regard the outlook with confidence. Philadelphia and Chicago reports indicate that growers are holding for higher prices. But no improvement is seen in woolen goods, though dress goods are in fair request here and stocks of light weight cloths are small. Flannel mills are generally cutting down production. Reports from other cities show a healthy state of trade with clear signs of improvement where better crop prospects have immediate influence. Railway wars do not cease; on the contrary most bountiful of east-bound rates appears, and speculative managers are suspected of willingness to see lower prices. It is but fair to remark that the rate of exchange of Canadian and lake lake is felt with constantly increasing severity, and until the inter-State laws have been changed, apparently must be. Prices of stocks have been weaker, though sugar trade has been put up again with reports of large profits. The delay of the Senate finance committee in acting upon sugar duties suggests some uncertainty, but in main the House tariff bill has been accepted. The rate of exchange of thought likely to be passed without great changes. The latest advice about silver legislation suggests greater possibility that the two houses may disagree, the disposition toward free coinage being strong in the Senate.

Business failures throughout the country during the last seven days numbered: For the United States, 195; Canada, 17; total, 212, compared with 236 last week. For the corresponding week of 1889, the number were 228 in the United States and 24 in Canada.

A RUMOR TRACED DOWN.

An Alleged Defalcation Turns Out to Have Been Simply a Business Transaction with which Death Interfered.

New York, June 13.—Referring to last night's rumor that a shortage of \$50,000 had been discovered in the accounts of the cashier of an Albany bank (the rumor mentions no names), the Albany special agent, Mr. J. H. Smith, has finally pointed to the name of the late John Templeton, cashier of the Albany County Bank, who died some two months ago. Just prior to his death Mr. Templeton borrowed about \$40,000 of the Albany County Bank to invest in certain stocks. The investment did not pan out well and the accountancy given by the cashier could not be realized on. His family at once offered to turn over to the bank some \$30,000, in the form of a life insurance policy, and also mortgaged their home to reimburse the bank. For some reason the agent of the insurance company refused to pay the money to the bank, and they have been trying to force the payment. Superintendent Maxwell, of the Insurance Department, was appealed to, and he threatened, it is said, to take the amount from the deposit of the company left with him as a bond. This had the desired effect, and the company has expressed its willingness to pay over the money to the bank. There was nothing but a stock business transaction between Mr. Templeton and the bank, and there is no stain upon the dead cashier's honor.

AN ALARMING VISITOR.

Singular Electrical Phenomenon Witnessed by Attorney-General Michener of Indiana and Family.

INDIANAPOLIS, June 13.—During the electrical storm Wednesday night, Attorney-General Michener and his family had an exciting experience. Mr. Michener and Mrs. Michener and four children were sitting in the room in which there is a telephone, and all within eight feet of each other, when Mrs. Michener saw a globe of fire about the size of a goose egg come from the telephone. It just grazed Mr. Michener's ear and exploded in front of him. The noise was like a cannon shot and brought people from their beds for squares around. Sparks of fire flew out in every direction. The family were badly frightened, but not injured. The telephone connections were destroyed, but there is no other trace left of the stroke of electricity.

CROOKED OARSMEN.

TORONTO, Ont., June 13.—The subcommittee of the executive committee of the Canadian Association of Amateur Oarsmen, which has been investigating charges against members of clubs in the association, has decided to report to the executive committee that they believe that several rowmen and scullers connected with three clubs in the association have been guilty of practices which warrant their disqualification. The names of the oarsmen in question are not given, but they are said to be long to the Nautilus Club of Hamilton, and the Baybides and Dons of Toronto.

TENNESSEE STATE NEWS.

A Band of Thieves.

KNOXVILLE, June 8.—A big sensation prevails in the vicinity of Strawberry Plains.

It was caused by the arrest of Jas. M. Beal, well known in that vicinity, the charge against him being larceny and house-breaking.

Beal had a hearing before Squire Moulton, when some startling revelations were made by a witness named Pleasant Bryant.

For the past three years citizens in that section have been missing articles of different kinds and values. Nearly every farmer in the community has lost something, and the feeling reached a dangerous heat.

About thirty men, banded together under the head of "Labor Knights," have been doing systematic stealings. They had regular officers and binding oaths. One of their provisions was that each member should steal something at least once a week, or pay a fine. An obligation in force was not to support any candidate for office who was not well loaded with financial argument.

Members of the band understand each other thoroughly, and always reported thefts to headquarters. Articles stolen were sold and the money divided. A number of arrests are expected, and some sly developments may be looked for.

An Important Decision.

JACKSON, June 7.—The Lancaster Mills and Coats & Co. has been against the Merchants' Company of Memphis and various railroads, to hold them liable for the loss by fire of 14,000 bales of cotton in November, 1887, were decided to-day, Judge Lorton for the court delivering a very elaborate opinion.

Held, first, that the carriers came under no liability; second, that the Merchants' Company undertook to insure the owners' interest in the cotton, and as to Coats & Co., they were liable to the extent of failure.

The decree in this case was affirmed to insure. The Lancaster Mills having full insurance of its own, and having received the amount in the form of a conditional loan from its insurance company, this was held to be in effect a payment and no damages resulted to the mills from the failure of the Merchants' Company to insure. The decree in this case was reversed and the bill was dismissed.

Miscellaneous.

Frost relatives of the late William McDaniels, who was killed at Newbern Station, it is learned that recent developments lead to the belief that he was murdered. The deceased was running a mill at Newbern Station and was intending to take the train to visit another town. Just before train time he entered a saloon and asked the proprietor to loan \$50, but was unable to get the change. This was the last seen of him alive and next morning his remains were found lying on the track about a mile from the depot. It was known that he had about \$100 in his pockets, and the next morning when found his watch and chain and all the money except some change was missing.

It is general belief that he was murdered and robbed and his body placed upon the track to hide the crime.

As important case decided in the Supreme Court last week was that of H. Crockett vs. F. R. Taylor, it being the case involving the county seat question of Obion County. The decree of the Chancellor was affirmed, which dismissed the bill filed by the citizens of Troy, claiming the election void last fall, by which the county seat was removed to Union City. The election stands.

W. T. WHEATLY was arrested at Nashville last week by Detectives Sidelotom and McConnell, in company with Sheriff Staton of Montgomery County, where he is wanted for the murder of a man over twenty years ago. Wheatly was a livery stable keeper at Providence, a small town just opposite Clarksville. He paid a negro named Steve Meriwether to bury the dead man in a cave. Meriwether died recently, but on his deathbed he confessed the crime. Robbery is supposed to have actuated the murder.

RECORDED BELL, of Nashville, has received a letter from Cincinnati attorneys asking for information regarding Andrew DeKalb Ernst. Just before the war, when about 10 years old, he ran away from his home in that city and came to Tennessee. He worked in Nashville as a printer for several years and then disappeared. A handsome fortune is waiting for him in Cincinnati.

NASHVILLE is about to have a new telephone company that will charge only 82 per month for the use of instruments. The Capital Electric Company, with a number of private parties, have been negotiating with the Street Corporation of New York for the right to use their instruments in Tennessee. These negotiations will be concluded within a few days, and exchanges established in Nashville, Knoxville, Memphis and Chattanooga and other places as soon as local business warrants it. One hundred thousand dollars will be in vested immediately.

The cultivation of the strawberry is fast becoming one of the diversified industries of West Tennessee. The present crop, which has just been marketed, yielded not less than a quarter of a million dollars. This is quite a sum of money distributed among the people at a season of the year when no other crop is ready for the market. One-fourth of the value of the strawberry crop is paid for picking, which is generally done by women and children. This money is nearly all put in circulation and makes trade lively among the merchants.